

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/630,979

Examiner

Thu Khanh T. Nguyen

Applicant(s)

BRUSCHI, MARIO

Art Unit

1722

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to letter dated 01/31/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-11.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 5/24/04
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview and fax communications with Mr. Sheridan Neimark on April 26, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1 (Amended): Apparatus for injection molding articles of plastics material, characterized in that it comprises: molds (2a) and countermolds (2b) forming a plurality of molding units (3), molding cavities (7) being defined inside said molds and countermolds; at least one plastic injection assembly (8) for supplying plastic material into said mold cavities, and at least one auxiliary assembly (9) adapted to respectively supply melted plastics material and pressurized fluid into said molding cavities (7), said molding units (3) being movable with respect to said injection assembly (8) and auxiliary assembly (9), and removable connecting devices (12, 8a), and check means (20) adapted to avoid counter flows from said molding cavities (7), being provided between said molding units (3) and said injection assembly (8) and said auxiliary assembly (9).

Cancel claim 12.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-11 are allowed over the prior art of record.

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3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The EP reference (876 891) discloses a gas-assisted injection molding apparatus, comprising a mold and a countermold unit (10) forming a cavity (10C), a plastic injection assembly (11), a coolant feed unit (255) connecting to a gas assisted unit (250) for cooling the molten resin along with the gas source for forming hollow product.

The EP reference, however, fails to disclose an auxiliary assembly for supplying melted plastics material and pressurized fluid into the mold cavity.

Fernandez et al (5,843,485) discloses a gas-assisted injection molding comprising an injection assembly (200) connecting to the gas pipe (220) and the plastic pipe (208). However, Fernandez fails to disclose a separate plastic injection assembly.

One of ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to combine the teaching of Fernandez et al into the EP reference. Even if that's the case, the combination would fail to provide a first plastic injection assembly and a second auxiliary assembly providing melted plastic material along with pressurized fluid into the mold cavity.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."


4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thu Khanh T. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-1136. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday- Friday, 6:30-4:00.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gupta Yogendra can be reached on 571-272-1316. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

TN


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